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530CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Germany/Russian Zone/France

DATE: 25X1A

SUBJECT Russians Recruiting German PWs in France

INFO. [REDACTED]

DIST. 26 March 1947

ORIGIN 25X1A [REDACTED]

PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

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1. Between 8 and 12 February 1947, two Soviet aircraft landed daily at Schönefeld (ZOS). Each carried thirty-three German passengers flown in from the Paris area. This movement was believed to be continuing as of 21 February.

- 25X1A 2. [REDACTED] and to engage some of the passengers in conversation, claims that they were German PWs recruited in French camps by the Russians for work in the Baltic States. This recruiting is said to have begun in late January. Young, intelligent, physically fit Germans are told that they are needed for reconstruction work in Estonia, Latvia or Lithuania and are promised high salaries and eventual citizenship within those three countries. No details are given them concerning the actual work.

3. The PWs seen arriving at Schönefeld wore American uniforms without insignia, in the French fashion, and possessed new shoes, watches, suitcases and other articles. Each plane, however, was met by a Russian officer with six guards and the passengers were promptly taken to barracks and divested of their apparently new belongings. Following this, they were loaded on trucks which proceeded in the direction of Frankfurt/O.

4. On 12 February, two PWs escaped after landing. They were chased by twelve officers and fifty EM. One was apprehended.

5. Source claims that the PWs are not selected for their technical or professional qualifications.

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Comment: The source also "suspects" that the Germans are mostly ex-SS men, but this appears to be an opinion rather than a conclusion based on fact.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐☒ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 13 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

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